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September 1, 1973

AMS report: AN ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER FOR AMS EMPLOYEES

AMS Interns at Summer's End

Interning In Washington

Tammie Ortega came the farthest, at her own expense, to be one of AMS' four summer interns this year.

And when you come from Gaudalupita, N.M., as Tammie does, you find that Washington, D.C., the federal government, USDA, and AMS are all pretty unfamiliar territory, in about that order.

But now that summer is over, that order is reversed. Miss Ortega and the other three interns understand what AMS is about, and they have their opinions on the work of the agency, as they do on the intern program and their summer in Washington.

For Richard Pechter, 19, summer has largely meant the chilly sub-basement in Wing Two that houses the Washington Computer Center. Pechter, from Long Island, N.Y., is a math major at Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., where he is entering senior year.

His computer projects for the Automated Data Systems Staff have given him an insightful, if brief, glimpse into the workings of the commodity divisions. He has, for example, written programs to help the Tobacco Division analyze data and to compile information returns on the Livestock Division's "eartag project," the Beef carcass Data Service.

Pechter, who may go on for a Master's degree, terms his summer with the government "an interesting experience."

'Work Before Graduation'

Twenty-year-old Peter Drucker says the program "has been very worthwhile for me. I think more people should have the opportunity to work in their field before graduation..." A New York City man, Drucker said that he has done more in his programming job for the Statistical Services Staff "than I've done in any other job." Drucker is an engineering major at Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn entering his senior year.

In Tammie Ortega's brief acquaintance with the government, her impression is of constant activity, of a program she calls "excellent," and experience she believes will prove "invaluable." Miss Ortega, 21, is working with the Information Division's Regulatory Branch. She graduated from New Mexico Highlands University, Las Vegas, N.M., in June, and will start a Master's program in broadcasting at the University of Minnesota this fall.

(cont'd. pg. 3)

"USAID, Liberia Appreciate His Service"

Ellis Probes Liberian Rice Potential

Monrovia, Liberia is his field office. He's Herschel B. Ellis, formerly the Grain Division's western regional director in Portland, and now in the third year of his detail to the U.S. Agency for International Development's Mission to Liberia.

On June 20, Ellis received his 30-year certificate and this citation from William Wild, Jr., director of the U.S. AID Mission to Liberia: "The Department of Agriculture is to be commended for having such an excellent officer representing them abroad and USAID and the Government of Liberia appreciate his outstanding service as Marketing Specialist."

Ellis is working with the Liberian government to develop a nationwide price stabilization and marketing program for rice.

"The importance of rice to Liberians can be likened to the importance of potatoes (120 pounds per person each year) to the U.S.," said W. T. Wisbeck, who worked with Ellis in the 1950's in Portland. Wisbeck is chief of the Grain Inspection Branch in Hyattsville, Md.

"Clearly the AID people rate Ellis' work highly," he continued, "since they've carried it into a second tour of duty. I know that although progress is slow, Ellis feels that he's accomplishing something very worthwhile, and he wants to see the project through to completion."

"Completion," in Liberian terms, would mean setting up a system of grades so the farmer can be paid for the quality of his rice rather than for the quantity alone. It would mean, too, helping the country to "go modern" -- for example, to replace its primitive practice of "winnowing" (throwing the rice in the air to blow the chaff from the grain) with modern milling systems.

For the detail, Ellis draws on his 25 years with the Grain Division. He started in 1948 as a Grain Inspection Supervisor in San Francisco. With changes in assignment, Ellis moved to Portland, Baton Rouge, and back to Portland in 1964. In those years he developed the Suggestion Award-winning "Ellis Cup Sampler," a weight device that helps laboratories to mill rice samples.

With Ellis in Liberia are his wife, Dorothy, and teen-age son, Cleve.

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Distribution of the first issue of *AMS Report* was very slow. Washington distribution, from the Office of Plant and Operations, will continue to take about a week. Field distribution takes slightly longer, and where we find that field people are not receiving *AMS Report*, changes will be made immediately in the mailing list.

"Quotes"

For Modern Government

ELMER B. STAATS, comptroller general of the United States, on the 90th anniversary of the Civil Service Act, Jan. 16, 1973:

In observing this 90th birthday of the Civil Service Act, let us make certain that we are not oriented more to the past than to the future ...We tend to do things in the traditional ways...We may fail to realize that situations have changed and that new solutions or new ideas are called for.

It is not enough to be judged good at doing our daily work...We want to be able to look back 10 years from today -- your 100th anniversary -- and know that the public service is better because we were there.

Interns Review An AMS Summer

No 'Busy Work' This Summer - (cont'd.)

Although she feared a summer of "busy work," Miss Ortega said "the USDA program has been excellent for me because I've been given staff-level assignments and duties." She has written fact sheets, news releases, and has been in on the writing and broadcasting ends of AMS TV and radio work. The highlight of the summer, she said, was her appearance on the USDA TV show, "Across the Fence."

Martin Ugell, 21, from Long Island, N.Y., said his summer was "definitely worthwhile," and would like to see the program expanded. Ugell, who is with the Livestock Division's Administrative Office Budget Group, speaks enthusiastically of the seminars provided for the interns by the CSC and USDA. He is a senior majoring in accounting at Long Island University.

The Federal Summer Intern Program is coordinated by the Civil Service Commission. Reuben Romero, the 22-year-old moderator of the program for USDA, said that "it's the most prestigious in the country for summer employees."

Romero met with each of USDA's 20 interns (GS-4's and 5's) in the D.C. area (there are also 34 in the field) and developed a USDA seminar series for them in addition to the seminar schedule organized by the CSC. Of the seven USDA seminars, the AMS interns unanimously liked best "Meat Grading, Animal Health and Plant Protection." Romero attributes his "great personal interest" in the program to the fact that just last year he, too, was a USDA intern.

The purpose of the intern program, according to AMS Coordinator Craig Turner, is two-fold. "We want to provide AMS with skilled summer personnel," he said, "people with some relevant background to our programs." The students are selected on the basis of grade average, opinion leadership, college credit hours, and participation in activities.

Secondly, Turner continued, "the program is designed to acquaint students with the working of the federal government and to attract top young people."

Division News

Dairy

Carl Conover was named acting chief of the Order Enforcement Branch. Former Chief Robert Loomis retired June 30 after almost 40 years of federal service.

Kenneth Olson is new regional supervisor of the Inspection and Grading Branch, Chicago Region. Olson takes over from Reuben Wilson, who retired June 30. Wilson had 30 years of federal service.

Joseph Rubis is now acting chief of the Standardization Branch. Rubis' appointment follows the May 28 retirement of Chief Floyd Fenton, who had been with the federal government 25 years. Rubis was formerly assistant chief of the Inspection and Grading Branch.

Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program

Thomas H. Porter, who has been with the Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program since 1965 as a marketing specialist, has been named the Program's acting director. Former Director George H. Goldsborough is now deputy director of the Fruit and Vegetable Division.

Fruit and Vegetable

Three Virginia high school teachers turned processed products inspectors this summer. The three, Charles Bell, Vivian Dent, and Martha Hamilton, are the first to work as temporary inspectors at canning plants on Virginia's Eastern Shore under a cooperative agreement between the Processed Products Branch and the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

The trio is from the Northampton High School in Eastville, Va.

The plan, which is of mutual benefit to the teachers and USDA, gives the teachers summer employment and may be expanded in the future. According to Victor Levene, federal supervisor of the Processed Foods Section, these teachers were chosen because of their science backgrounds and experience in laboratory work. The teacher-inspectors grade canned tomatoes, canned tomato products, and canned sweet potatoes. Because the sweet potato season extends into December, the teachers will continue work on a part-time basis in the school year.

Grain

Nelda R. Hodges, a clerk in the Grain Division's Norfolk field office, received a \$75 Suggestion Award Aug. 13. Mrs. Hodges' idea, already implemented, is to make uniform the fees that USDA pays to inspection agencies for drawing samples of grain for the government. USDA contracts out this work. Mrs. Hodges, who has been with the Grain Division since 1962, received a quality salary increase in 1968.

Livestock

The second national union agreement between the American Federation of Government Employees and the Meat Grading Branch was negotiated during the week of Aug. 13. Topics negotiated included employer-union cooperation, equal employment opportunity, annual leave, and grievances. Representing the meat graders were: AFGE's Robert Richardson, and, from the Meat Graders' Council, John Novak, Bill Mize, and Don Jones. AMS management negotiators were: David Hallett, Martin Swingley, and John Nale, Livestock, and William Struck, Personnel. The agreement covers approximately 400 permanent, full-time meat graders and will be in effect for two years.

A new Federal-State task force on feeder cattle standards, chaired by Eddie Kimbrell, met for the first time in mid-July. The task force evaluates the need for and recommends changes in the standards for grades of feeder cattle. With Kimbrell on the force are, from the Livestock Division, Herbert Abraham, Russell Cross, and Robert Jorgensen, western area market news supervisor, together with representatives from the Virginia and West Virginia Departments of Agriculture.

Anyone living in Alabama now can dial a toll-free number and get the latest livestock market news. This service, started Aug. 1, brings to 65 the number of automatic telephone tape-recorders being operated across the nation by the Livestock Market News Service. The messages, provided by market news reporters, are updated two to five times daily and written to suit area industry needs.

Another new "instant market news" telephone service was started Aug. 1 in Purcell, Okla. But the Alabama service, operated out of Montgomery, has the distinction of being one of only

two toll-free services. The other is provided out of Indianapolis for the State of Indiana. All the other telephone tape services require a toll for long distance calls.

Standardization Branch Chief W. Edmund Tyler met with Latin American representatives in Gainesville, Fla., in July to discuss USDA meat grades. The meeting was called the "First Annual Seminar and Laboratory on Meats Classification, Sanitation, and Zoonosis (communicable animal diseases) Control in Latin America." Attending were Latin American representatives of government agencies, commercial companies, and educational institutions.

Poultry

The narrative guide of "How to Buy Eggs" (C-139) is now available on cassette, recorded last month by APHIS Consumer Education Specialist Sara Beck. The "How to Buy Eggs" slide set/filmstrip is popular with home economics teachers, extension workers, and consumer groups. Russell Forte, of the Office of Communication's Photography Division, calls it one of USDA's "best-sellers" -- well over a thousand sets have been sold since 1969.

Plans are underway for the 1974 World's Poultry Congress, to be held next August in New Orleans, La. This will be the 15th Congress and the second time that the U.S. has been host. The U.S. hosted the 1939 Congress in Cleveland.

The Congress brings together every four years the more than 5,000 members of the World Poultry Science Association, which has branches in over 80 countries. The U.S. branch has 700 members. Spain hosted the 1970 Congress.

The 1974 Congress, which will be open to anyone interested in the poul-

Poultry - (cont'd.)

try industry, will feature scientific programs, an exposition of poultry industry equipment, services, and supplies. A large number of USDA employees are helping to plan the Congress, and AMS will participate in a USDA activity, yet to be decided upon.

Financial Management

John Reeves returned to his job as Director of the Financial Management Division Aug. 3, after a year of study at the National War College.

Information

Information took a variety of blue (first place-outstanding), red (second place - superior), and white (third place-excellent) ribbons in the 1973 American Association of Agricultural College Editors contest. The AAACE contest is for people working in agricultural information, both USDA and land grant colleges.

Winners are: Sheila Nelson and Martha Parris, a blue ribbon for 10 "How to Buy Food" reproducibles (Special Visuals category); Bernice Baker, a red ribbon for "Prices and Consumption of Dairy Products" (Technical Research Publication); Margaret Berkowitz, a red ribbon for "The Egg and the Law" (TV News Clip or Spot Announcement); Bob Davis, a white ribbon for "Market News - Volume 10 - Major Statistical Series of the USDA" (Special Reports); Dale May, a white ribbon for "A Film on Food Safety" (Single Direct Mail Piece); Cheryl Palmer, a white ribbon for "High Quality American Beef" (Filmed Television Features, Special Productions); and Martha Parris, a white ribbon for "How to Buy Potatoes" (Popular Publications.)

In the Federal Editors' Contest, competitive among federal writers na-

tionwide, Eleanor Ferris placed second with the publication, "This is USDA's AMS," and the Marketing Services Branch received an Honorable Mention for the radio spots, "Keys to Quality."

On Aug. 14, the USDA and HEW announced a joint program to reduce illness from Salmonella and other food-borne diseases. Special emphasis will be on eliminating careless food handling at home and in food service establishments.

Personnel

Chances are 50-50 that as an AMS employee you have already been rated on AD-434 (has nine ratings: 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9), which will supersede AMS-301 (five ratings: 1-3-5-7-9).

Got that? This year supervisors are completing both the older form AMS-301 and the new AD-434. It is expected that after 1973, AMS-301 will be abolished.

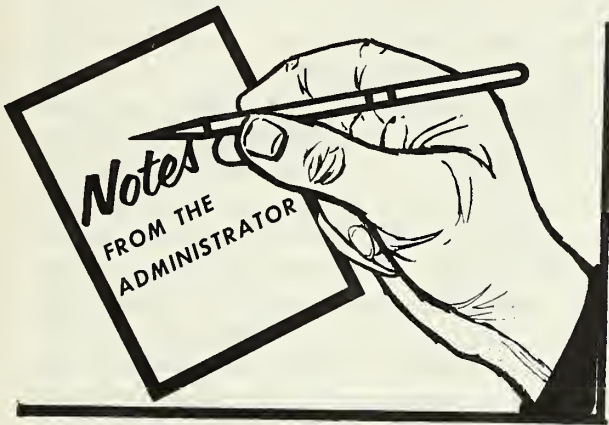
Each number on the new form says more about the employee than the same number on the old form. Take the rating "5" for example: on AMS-301 "5" means "adequately meets normal position requirements" On AD-434, "5" means "meets position requirements and does so at the level expected of a highly qualified incumbent in full command of a position" -- clearly a higher rating, though the same number.

The message here is to think about what the numbers mean. Compare the definitions on both forms, and consider the impact of the even numbers included on the AD-434. Should a numerical rating be lower on the new form than it was on the old, it may simply mean that both employee performance and supervisor's evaluation are still the same.

More information about this will be included in the next AMS Report, or in an all employee Notice.

October 1, 1973

AMS report: AN ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER FOR AMS EMPLOYEES



On Tuesday, Sept. 4, the AMS proposed budget for fiscal year 1975 was reviewed before Secretary Butz and his associates within the Office of the Secretary. We from AMS presented in broad panorama the major components of our work --

Standardization, Inspection and Grading

Through standards development we create the language of commerce in agricultural commodities. Our inspection and grading covers literally billions upon billions of pounds of agricultural commodities ranging through cotton, tobacco, rice, wheat, corn, soybeans, edible beans and peas, fruits and vegetables, dairy products, beef, veal, pork, and poultry and eggs, to name the principal groupings of products.

Market News

There are many thousands of decisions made daily within or related to the movement and prices of agricultural commodities. Historic price patterns are examined in many places as part of decisions to commit or not commit resources to agriculture in all its many aspects--production, processing, transport, credit, supplies, investments, and others. Market news is a fundamental component of the supply of basic information upon which the decision-making processes in agriculture occur.

Marketing Agreements and Orders

Excluding the State of California, substantially all fluid milk sold in the nation is subject to the provisions of Milk Marketing Orders--61 of them. A very large portion of all fruits and vegetables move to markets

AMS Budget

AMS presented in broad panorama before Secretary Butz ... the major components of our work.

--both fresh and processed--under marketing orders -- 49 of them. In all cases these orders are directed at the assurance of orderly marketing--an even flow of products to market--and of acceptable levels of quality.

(cont'd. pg. 3)

AMS PROFILES

Paul Christ

AMS Young Executive

Relishes Program's

Independence

As the Young Executives Committee of 1972-73 slipped quietly into the Young Executives Committee of 1973-74 this summer, an AMS candidate was again selected to be among the incoming members.

He's Paul G. Christ (pronounced as in *Christmas*), third AMS Young Executive named to the program in as many years, and successor to former AMS Young Executives Karen Berke and Mark Sheldon.

It's only been three months, but the 35-year-old Christ, a supervisory agricultural economist in the Dairy Division, is already eyeing the new committee's future with a certain daring optimism. "It represents an opportunity to do independent work on a relevant problem," he said. "We can get into things that are controversial or that may have been neglected in the past, things that are of interest to us."

Any mention of controversy harkens back to the first Young Executives Committee of 1971-72 and its report on farm income, entitled "New Directions for U.S. Agricultural Policy."

Melvyn Copen, director of Information Services, who was involved in initiating the concept of the committee, commented on that first report. The farm income study, he said, called for a winding down of many farm programs and was reprinted in the *Congressional Record*. "It caused a furor in Congress, and was written up in many newspaper editorials."

It was precisely to create an agent of such free and spirited thinking that the idea for the committee was put to Secretary Hardin in Spring 1971. The program was drawn up under the chairmanship of Under Secretary J. Phil Campbell to achieve three purposes. To: 1) bring together an interdisciplinary group to survey Department problems; 2) provide fresh insight in the Office of the Secretary; and 3) aid management development by giving individuals the opportunity to broaden themselves in areas beyond their own agencies.

Committee members meet with key people, congressmen and members of the Secretary's office. They explore broad problems, like rural development, land use policy, and USDA goals, and report on one major issue.

20 Talented People

"Put a group like this together, 20 very bright, talented, eager people," said Copen, "and they benefit just from the interaction among themselves!"

Christ agrees. "It's refreshing to get in with a group like this...so articulate and well-informed. Generally there is very little contact between people of the same persuasions, interests, or even the same job titles."

Each of USDA's 36 agencies, including staff offices, may nominate three individuals as Young Executives, although no more than one person per agency is selected. Of about 75 nominees this year, 20 were chosen.

(cont'd. pg. 4)

AMS' Task: Food Distribution Post-Attack

Although international relations have improved in the past few years, the government must still maintain its "readiness posture" in the case of nuclear attack. "Readiness" means that the essential functions of each Department of the federal government would continue uninterrupted.

To AMS has fallen a readiness assignment as fundamental and sensitive as life itself -- to manage a plan assuring the conservation and fair distribution of food among the population after an attack. A principal part of the plan is known technically as Standby Defense Food Order No. 2 and is geared for use by federal authorities at all levels until the government can take action following an attack.

AMS' Emergency Preparedness Branch of the Transportation and Warehouse Division coordinates this food management plan. Only the four employees of the branch work full-time on the assignment. They are: Acting Chief Harold E. Gay, Robert L. Howard, William Walker, and Wilma Vann.

However, about 185 AMS employees also have specific assignments in the standby emergency preparedness program. They are a part of a readiness team that includes people in seven other USDA agencies and every department of the federal government. Included in AMS' part-time team are a food management representative on each USDA emergency board at state, city, and regional levels, as well as agency and division representatives in Washington, D.C.

In discussing the program, Mr. Gay pointed out that any USDA employee may be called on to perform an assignment in a nuclear emergency. This is stated, he said, in the largely-unread "Administrative Regulations and C&MS Instruction 107-1, Part Two - Field Assignments."

Administrator Peterson has urged all AMS employees, should they be called on to assist, to do so with the pride and enthusiasm they display in their regular program responsibilities.

AMS Budget - (cont'd.)

Regulatory Programs

There are quite a number. They are important. I can here but mention some significant ones -- the Federal Seed Act, the Plant Variety Protection Act, the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, the Egg and Egg Products Inspection Act. There are regulatory aspects to voluntary programs once they are activated -- market orders and agreements, inspection and grading. All of these, and others, are directed toward the orderly marketing of the agricultural commodities to which they apply.

Research and Promotion

In relatively recent years a growing body of legislative authorities have been created to provide for the creation and funding of commodity research and promotion programs. Among these are the Cotton Research and Promotion Act, the Potato Research and Promotion Act, the Wheat Research and Promotion Act, and research and promotion activities under marketing orders and agreements. Aggregate expenditures are approaching \$40 million annually, so this area of activity is of major importance, commanding increased attention of AMS.

(cont'd. pg. 4)

Procurement

Through our commodity divisions we procure each year for public feeding programs--School Lunch and Needy Families -- commodities with an aggregate value in excess of \$200 million. With substantially changed market conditions, our commodity purchase activities have changed from surplus removal to outright procurement. Congress recently authorized Section 32 purchases without regard to prior limitations requiring, in effect, either a physical or economic surplus.

Warehouse Licensing and Inspection, and Transportation Services

These activities, particularly transportation services, are in growing demand, and of increasing importance.

Managerial

Encompassed here are all the management service functions of the Agency--our Personnel, Administrative Services, and Financial Management Divisions. The thrust of the host of activities in this area is to service AMS program operations so that resources devoted to program work can operate effectively and efficiently.

Our EEO, employee development, training program development, accounting, and fiscal record work, procurement, and a host of related functions reside within the managerial area.

We do indeed have a heavy load of important work on our platter. In its performance we strive for excellence, both individual and collective. We seek to deserve the respect and confi-

dence of all the public we serve. The degree to which we achieve that respect and confidence will help to measure the quality of our performance.

Finally, AMS is people -- you, me, and all our associates. Every individual is important as a person. The work each does is important. If it weren't, the positions he or she fills wouldn't exist. We will grow in stature and respect by others and by ourselves as we individually and collectively achieve excellence of performance.



E. L. Peterson

Profile on Christ - (cont'd.)

Though the basic qualifications for selection are simple (the candidate must be 35 or under and at least a GS-12), the selection committee applies its own more discerning criteria. What, for example, is the individual's record of accomplishment, his potential for growth, and does he evidence a high energy level?

Christ's background speaks for itself.

He came to USDA in 1961 with a B.A. in Ag Education and an M.A. in Ag Economics from Southern Illinois University. He is completing his thesis for a Ph.D. in Ag Economics from Kansas State University. Christ is currently detailed to the Cost of Living Council to help develop and implement Phase IV of the Wage and Price Freeze, and was earlier detailed to study "Productivity in the Food Industry" for the National Commission on Productivity. He has also worked voluntarily for several USDA and dairy seminar groups.

Christ and wife Diane live in Vienna, Va., with their seven children.

Division News

Cotton

October signals the active cotton harvest season (October - December) and this division's search for trained cotton classers. In all, the Cotton Division recruits 1500 temporary employees -- classers, clerk-recorders, commodity aids, and laborers -- to supplement its permanent staff of 275 during the harvest.

Since enough qualified cotton classers are hard to come by on a seasonal basis, the division now runs its own training program. Twenty-four students enrolled in March in the fourth such program in recent years. The six-month cotton classer training schools are held in Memphis, Tenn., for people with a general background in cotton but no experience in cotton classing. When they successfully complete the program, students are eligible for a four-month seasonal appointment as GS-7's and future appointments as GS-9's.

Dairy

Harold E. Meister, deputy director, was named chairman of the U.S. Committee to the Joint FAO/WHO (Food and Agriculture Organization/World Health Organization) Committee of Government Experts on the Code of Principles Concerning Milk and Milk Products. He succeeds former Chairman Floyd Fenton, who retired from government service last May.

As chairman, Mr. Meister headed the seven-member U. S. delegation to the Joint Committee's Sixteenth Session in Rome, Sept. 10-15. Delegates from 35 countries attended.

The committee works to develop standards of identity for milk and milk products. It is under the Codex Alimentarius Commission, established in 1963 to develop international standards for food to protect the consumer's health and to facilitate world trade.

Fruit and Vegetable

Arthur E. Browne, who retired in March as deputy director, received Florist Transworld Delivery's "Past Service Award" at FTD's annual convention in Las Vegas in August. Mr. Browne was presented a plaque bearing this citation:

For outstanding and dedicated service and in special recognition of his contribution of time and effort for the betterment of the retail florist industry.

Although the award is usually given to industry members, FTD made an exception this time to recognize Mr. Browne for his contributions toward establishing market news and developing grade standards for ornamental crops.

Fruit and Vegetable - (cont'd.)

Director Floyd F. Hedlund returned Sept. 6 from a three-week trip to Brazil. Mr. Hedlund attended meetings of the International Association of Agricultural Economists in Sao Paulo. The IAAE, which meets every three years, is the international counterpart of the American Agricultural Economics Association. Current farm prices and food supplies throughout the world were among topics discussed.

Staff Economist Ronald D. Knutson and F&V Economist James V. Fahey, along with USDA delegates from ARS, ERS, and FCS, met with industry representatives in September to study the potato processing industry. Meetings were held in East Grand Forks, Minn., and Presque Isle, Me.

The USDA people are all part of the Secretary's potato marketing team. Their study includes industry organization, bargaining and pricing procedures, information systems, marketing practices, and processing standards. Representatives will meet in Idaho in October.

Effective Oct. 1 are revised regulations for the inspection and certification of processed fruits and vegetables. The extensive revisions permit wider use of official grade names (as "U.S. Grade A" or "U.S. Fancy") and the official shield on USDA-graded products. Plant operation under USDA's continuous inspection program is no longer a condition for use of the U.S. grades and shield.

The revisions stipulate that USDA inspectors use the Food and Drug Administration's Good Manufacturing Practice sanitation guidelines. They also include new sampling plans and procedures for withdrawal of grading services.

At the request of growers in western Idaho, the Idaho Falls market news office will report the apple crop this year for the first time. Officer-in-Charge Ace Gloe will get the information, including truck shipments, by long distance telephone at the expense of the State Department of Agriculture. The information will be disseminated by leased wire and through the mimeographed report now issued at Yakima, Wash.

Grain

This Division reports that fiscal 1973 was a record year for grain exports, and therefore, a record year for export inspections--in fact, about 3 billion bushels of grain were inspected (some more than once)...enough for a line of bushel baskets to go around the world 35 times...or, for a line of boxcars 12,850 miles long ... or a string of 185-foot barges, 2,113 miles long

Livestock

David K. Hallett has been named chief of the Meat Grading Branch. He succeeds Francis M. Lee, who died in May. Hallett joined the Livestock Division as a trainee in 1955 and has been on the Washington meat grading staff since 1966. He was appointed assistant chief of the branch in 1970.

Standardization Branch Chief W. Edmund Tyler, Herbert Abraham, Russell Cross, and Eddie Kimbrell, all of Standardization, and Don Bevan, Market News, conducted a training school on grading feeder cattle Aug. 15 and 16. The school was held at Lewisburg, W. Va., and State livestock graders from Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, and Michigan attended. The graders are preparing for work at State-graded feeder cattle sales this fall. The school is part of the Livestock Division's continuing effort to help States using federal grades in their marketing programs to achieve greater accuracy and uniformity in applying the grades.

This Division has taken on responsibility for monitoring promotion activities conducted by the American Sheep Producers Council and the Mohair Council of America under the National Wool Act of 1954. These administrative responsibilities were recently transferred to AMS from the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, which will continue to conduct the necessary referendums and make appropriate deductions from gov-

ernment payments to producers. Similar promotion programs for other commodities authorized by Congress in recent years have been assigned to AMS for coordination

Market news reports a record-high number of slaughter cattle delivered in August to settle futures contracts -- 828 loads were accepted at delivery points Omaha, Neb.; Sioux City, Iowa; Peoria, Ill.; and Guymon, Okla. The previous high was 729 loads in December 1972. A futures contract promises the purchase or sale of one or more carlots of a commodity for delivery at a specified price and in a specified month.

The acceptance of livestock delivered to settle futures contracts is the only Market News activity performed on a fee basis. Division employees--primarily market reporters--examine livestock offered for delivery and certify that they meet the grade, weight, and other contract specifications. The division has accepted deliveries since November 1964 when the Chicago Mercantile Exchange started trading on livestock futures contracts.

Poultry

Merlin L. Nichols, Jr., national supervisor of egg products since 1969, was named assistant chief of the Standardization Branch. Mr. Nichols succeeds Jerald C. Fitzgerald, who retired June 30 on disability.

Poultry - (cont'd.)

E. W. (Ted) Thomas was named contracting officer for poultry and egg purchase programs, succeeding Paul S. Rabin. Mr. Rabin is new officer-in-charge of the Dairy and Poultry Market News office in Chicago. Mr. Thomas was formerly assistant northeastern regional director of USDA's Plentiful Foods Program.

James Christenson, formerly Chicago Market News officer-in-charge, has moved to the San Francisco Market News office as officer-in-charge there. Charles (Chuck) Godfrey, who had been market news officer-in-charge in San Francisco, returned to Des Moines in the same position. He succeeds Walter (Bud) Winters, who retired June 30 after 30 years of federal service.

The Market News Branch has begun issuing a report on estimated weekly U. S. poultry slaughter. The report, which comes out each Wednesday, includes broilers and fowl (but not turkeys) and indicates trends in off-farm movement one week before the official federal slaughter report.

Federal-State graders and supervisors of the East-Mideast Grading Region got together recently in well-attended informal sessions to discuss topics of mutual concern in a relaxed atmosphere. The EME grading region in-

cludes Indiana, Wisconsin, Arkansas, and Kentucky. Alabama and Mississippi will hold their annual gatherings later in the fall.

Information

The Government Printing Office estimates that the cost of printing and binding in Fiscal Year 1974 will increase about 8.4 percent over FY 1973. In FY 1975, GPO is anticipating an 8.9 percent rise over FY 1974. Increases are due to higher labor cost, paper cost, and cost of commercial printing and binding work.

Personnel

The Personnel Division, perhaps more than any other division or staff office, works on subjects "across-the-board."

What subjects (of interest to all AMS employees) would you like to have discussed by the Personnel Division? Send you ideas to: Personnel Division Representative - AMS Report - Rm. 1710 South Building, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, Washington, D.C.

November 1, 1973

AMS report: AN ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER FOR AMS EMPLOYEES

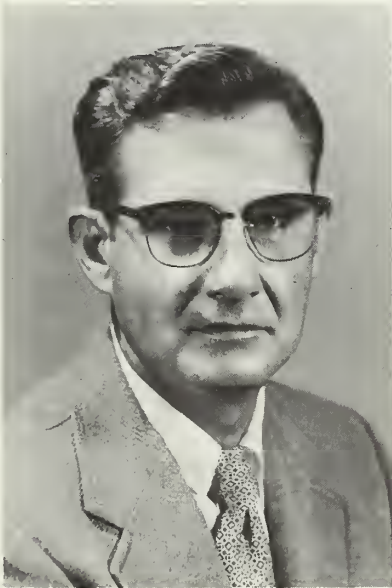
Kennett, Robison Named to Directors' Posts

H. Connor Kennett, Jr., and Andrew C. Robison have been named directors of the Poultry and Cotton Divisions, respectively, Administrator Ervin L. Peterson announced Oct. 24. Their appointments became effective Sunday, Oct. 28, according to Personnel Director Irving W. Thomas.

In announcing the appointments, Mr. Peterson said, "Both Mr. Kennett and Mr. Robison have demonstrated their capacity to direct and manage complicated public programs with a high degree of professionalism. They are each a credit to the public service."

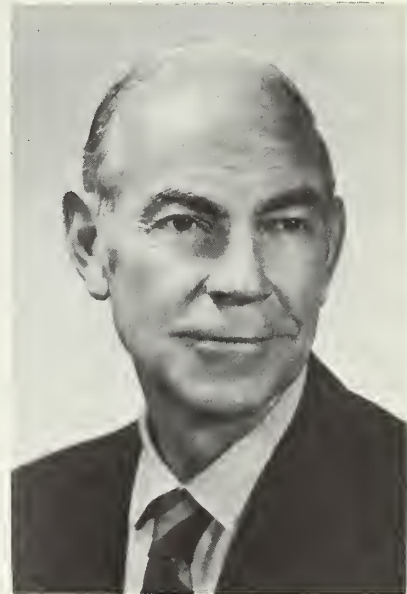
Both men have been acting directors of their divisions since the spring, and both have spent their entire federal service careers in AMS, with the exception of armed services duty.

H. Connor Kennett



Mr. Kennett succeeds William E. Hauver, who retired June 30. As Director, Mr. Kennett will supervise USDA's national grading and standardization programs for poultry, rabbits, and shell eggs as well as the egg products

Andrew C. Robison



Mr. Robison, deputy director of the Cotton Division since 1963, succeeds Stanley C. Rademaker who retired last May.

With the exception of 2-1/2 years service in the Navy, Mr. Robison has

(continued on page 5)

AMS PROFILES

Katy Brubaker Starts 4th Year as F&V's Only Lady Reporter

*"The F&V men knew what would happen
when they laid on the line the job's
difficulties, its mobility requirement,
and the terminal market's roughness...
It didn't."*

The girl who was never expected to last a month as the Fruit and Vegetable Division's only female market news reporter, is now entering her fourth year and doing "as good a job as any man."

She's Kathleen A. Brubaker, known around terminal markets as "Katy," officer-in-charge of the seasonal shipping point office at Merrill, Ore.

Her boss, Clay Ritter, who heads up the F&V Division's Market News Branch, delights in recalling the events surrounding Katy's entry into the "man's world" of fruit and vegetable market reporting in September 1970.

It seems that at the same time the division was looking for a market news reporter, Katy's name came up on the San Francisco Civil Service Register. Although she had the proper background, a degree in Horticulture from Kansas State University, and responded with interest to the job inquiry, the F&V men knew what would happen when they laid on the line the job's diffi-



**Katy Brubaker: "I hadn't known that
such a world existed."**

culties, its mobility requirement, and the terminal market's roughness.

It didn't.

As Katy tells it, one day she received a strangely marked card from the Civil Service offering a job as a "MKT RPTR - F&V." Not knowing what a "MKT RPTR - F&V" was, but not wanting to pass up a potentially good thing, she answered yes. Next step was an interview and visit to a terminal market

(continued on page 4)

"Quotes" For Modern Government

From "What People Know and Say About Farmers" by Dr. James F. Evans, Agricultural Communications, University of Illinois, Urbana:

Nonfarmers see farming as a vital endeavor.

Farmers see their occupation as vital to the economy... Working with the soil accounts for the farmer's firm belief in the importance of his work. As Liberty Hyde Bailey argued, 'The surface of the earth is particularly within the care of the farmer. He keeps it for his own sustenance and gain, but his gain is also the gain of all the rest of us.'

The farmer has viewed himself as a provider of a necessity as well as a guardian of the earth. One of the most enduring expressions of that idea came from Charles G. Leland, who, in verse, explained that dignitaries rule, pages serve, priests preach, and so on -- 'But fall to each whate'er befall, The farmer he must feed them all.'

Credit Union Opens to Field Members

The Agriculture Federal Credit Union enlarged its field of membership Oct. 1 to include any USDA employee anywhere in the country.

"This is the first time," said Manager Ben Hills, "that we've been able to go outside of the metropolitan Washington area."

Mr. Hills said that USDA has been trying for years to get the approval which the National Credit Union Administration has just granted. The Agriculture Federal Credit Union was established in 1934.

There are two conditions for membership in the Agriculture Federal Credit Union. The USDA employee must not be eligible for membership in another credit union whose members include USDA or other federal employees. There must be fewer than 500 USDA employees at the employee's work-location.

The Agriculture Federal Credit Union is urging eligible USDA employees in any part of the country to apply for membership. Also eligible to join are members of the employees' immediate families living at home and employee organizations. Mr. Hill stressed that Credit Union features such as payroll deduction, life insurance on shares, and loans for almost any purpose, may be of particular interest to potential members.

To apply, the employee should send his name, date of birth, Social Security number, home address, name of USDA agency, location, home and office telephone numbers, and a check for \$5 for one share to: Agriculture Federal Credit Union, USDA South Building, Washington, D.C. 20250.

Each new member will be required to affirm that he is a USDA employee, and that he is not eligible for membership in another credit union.

Every Woman

As Federal Women's Program Coordinator for AMS, I want to invite women at all levels of the agency, both in the field and in Washington, to take advantage of the many training programs available. For employees in Washington, the Employee Development Branch has set up a bulletin board providing information about many of the courses offered. Field employees may contact the Employee Development Branch (Bob Bacon, Ray Holmes, Eunice Smith - telephone: 202-447-6235) for information on locally available courses as well as a list of Civil Service Commission Training Offices. You should arrange time with your supervisor to discuss your career plans and the training you feel you need to reach your goals. Please feel free to contact me about any other aspect of your employment as a woman in AMS. (Brenda Johnson, Federal Women's Program Coordinator - telephone: 202-447-6635).

Katy Brubaker Takes on 'Man's World' of F&V Reporting

Katy Brubaker in
4th Year - (cont'd.)

in San Francisco--certain discouragement, the men were sure. But Katy, who had tired of her previous job as an occupational therapist in the Women's Army Corps, was excited to come so close to the law of supply and demand in action. She "hadn't known that such a world existed," and was intrigued.

Now, as Officer-In-Charge of the Merrill office, this only woman among 52 federal reporters is responsible for reporting potatoes in the Klamath Basin and Tulelake areas (east of the Cascades in southern Oregon and northern California). Katy talks daily with potato buyers and shippers in the two-state area, and gathers local marketing information on prices, and supply and demand, to put on the leased wire and release locally.

According to Mr. Ritter, the Merrill office, which opened in 1959, is important to the California - Oregon area and to some extent Katy's reports are used throughout the country by buyers, chain stores, and receivers.

When the Merrill office closes for the season in May, Katy works temporary duty assignments at other stations. Her first summer, Katy worked in Chicago and Detroit, and last year helped report the important Kern (Calif.) District potato deal from Bakersfield, Calif. Then she substituted for vacationing reporters in Portland, Ore., and Yakima, Wash., before reopening the Merrill office in October.

And what of the warnings she had been armored with three years ago? The roughness of the terminal market never came to pass for Katy. She admits that it's rough for the men, but says she has been treated "kindly, politely... rough customers turn into gentlemen" when she's around.

Mr. Ritter just shakes his head to all this, admits his chauvinism, and says that "Katy was a real eyeopener for me. Maybe the Army prepared her," he went on, groping for an explanation, "but she can handle the roughest customers in the gentlest manner. We've had nothing but commendations about Katy's work, all of the trade people like her so much...she's a real lady."

Kennett - (cont'd.)

inspection program. His other key responsibilities include the coast-to-coast market news service for dairy and poultry products, and the purchase operations supplying poultry and egg products for the Nation's school lunch and direct food distribution programs.

Mr. Kennett first joined the Poultry Division's Washington staff in 1956 as a poultry marketing specialist. He became assistant chief of the Standardization and Marketing Practices Branch in 1962, and branch head in 1966. In one year, he was appointed division deputy director, the position he held until being named acting director.

Robison - (cont'd.)

been with AMS since 1938, when he joined the Cotton Division in Memphis, Tenn. Prior to 1938 he taught school and served for a brief period as an assistant county agent with the Agricultural Adjustment Administration in Polk County, Tenn.

In Memphis, Mr. Robison served as a cotton field representative and as assistant area manager. In 1954, he transferred to Washington and became chief of the Division's Marketing Programs Branch. He held that post until 1963 when he was named deputy director of the Cotton Division.

Editor's Note

Some years ago, it is said, a well-known quotation was translated by computer into Russian and then back into English. The words fed into the machine were: "The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

What came out from the double translation was: "The liquor is good, but the meat is spoiled."

AMS Report is here to take some of the double translations, the computers, and the bigness out of our agency, even if only for a brief moment each month.

It's here to remind our people reporting livestock market news in Peoria, inspecting lettuce in Salinas, and grading poultry in Minneapolis, of the nationwide impact of their combined efforts. It's here to let them know that those of us on 14th and Independence put pen down sometimes to reflect that the standards we develop in D.C. mean something only when rolled on that carcass in Omaha.

But that's a big job and we need all of your help. Please send your news of what you're doing for AMS, your suggestions, comments, to your AMS Report representative in Washington:

Cotton
Dairy
Federal-State Marketing Improvement
Program
Fruit and Vegetable
Grain
Livestock
Poultry
Tobacco
Transportation and Warehouse
Administrative Services
Information
Personnel

James Conrad
William Bryan

Mildred Pasternak
George Goldsborough
Harold Stevens
Kay Rinfrette
Elizabeth Handy
Mary Orme
Ernest Bergeron
Burt Hawkins
Cheryl Palmer
Bernard Sullivan

Division News

Fruit and Vegetable

Seasonal Market News
Field Offices Now Open:

<u>Location:</u>	<u>Commodities Reported:</u>
Belle Glade, Fla.	- Celery and other vegetables
Florida City, Fla.	- Tomatoes and tropical fruit
Grand Forks, N.D.	- Potatoes
Idaho Falls, Idaho	- Apples and potatoes
Lakeland, Fla.	- Citrus
Madison, Wis.	- Potatoes
Martinsburg, W.Va.	- Apples
Merrill, Ore.	- Potatoes
Pompano Beach, Fla.	- Cucumbers, peppers, and other vegetables
Riverhead, N.Y.	- Potatoes, cauliflower, and ornamental crops

The Packer, a trade publication primarily of interest to the fruit and vegetable industry, has indicated an interest in publishing the *National Trends Report on Ornamental Crops*, released each Friday by the San Francisco market news office.

The *Ornamental Crops Report*, which carries market news information on flowers, is similar to the *National Shipping Point Trends on Fruits and Vegetables*, already carried by The Packer. *National Shipping Point Trends* is compiled weekly in Washington, D.C., from background trading information

sent from federal and state production offices across the country (25-30 offices). For approximately 30 major commodities, it details such information as shipments, prices, trading during the previous week, crop conditions, harvesting progress, and outlook.

In addition to this information, the *Ornamental Crops Report* includes the observations of reporters who cover terminal wholesale flower markets.

The Easton, Md., Processed Products Office has completed another inspection season on canned tomatoes and tomato products. Twenty temporary employees, including minorities and women, helped the regular inspectors cover the busy season.

Grain

James B. Cheatham, Houston Field Office supervisor, was presented with a Certificate of Merit by Administrator Peterson in New Orleans on Sept. 25. Mr. Cheatham was cited for

his exceptional performance of Field Office Supervisor duties in conducting the affairs of the Houston Field Office, contributing materially to its efficient operation.

Grain - (cont'd.)

This Division has completed three training sessions for field office supervisors and chief clerks of the Grain and Commodity Inspection Branches' field offices. The meetings were held in Denver, Colo. (Sept. 10-14), Towson, Md. (Sept. 16-20), and New Orleans, La. (Sept. 24-26). Subjects discussed were fiscal and personnel activities, such as budget preparation, printout reading, defensive driving, tours of duty, use of GSA cars, travel overtime, and the employee appraisal system.

Livestock

Elroy Pohle, head of the Division's Wool and Mohair Laboratory in Denver, spoke on the role of objective measurement in wool marketing at an international conference held in Torun, Poland, at the end of September. Wool experts from more than nine countries attended the meeting. During his trip, Mr. Pohle also visited or lectured at wool and textile centers in London, Ilkley, and Bradford, England; Paris, France; Zurich, Switzerland; and Aachen, Germany.

On Aug. 15, West Virginia became the 25th state to enter into a cooperative federal-state livestock market news program. Under the West Virginia-AMS agreement, the Livestock Division directly supervises the reporting of feeder calf and lamb sales. State personnel using USDA standards grade the animals, which are sold at auctions

throughout West Virginia. The Washington Market News Staff provides technical supervision and program coordination.

The nine Division trainees, who began in March, have now completed the six-month formal training program and have assumed meat grading or market reporting duties at field locations. The trainees and their stations are: Market News - Walter Bigger (So. St. Joseph, Mo.); Meat Grading - Donald Carmichael (Denver, Colo.); Mary Lynn Davenport (Sioux City, Iowa); David Key (No. Portland, Ore); Daniel Majchrzak (Chicago, Ill.); Carl Miller (Denver, Colo.); Donald Powers (Omaha, Neb.); James Steiner (Cleveland, Ohio); and Jerry Willard (Omaha, Neb.).

The meat grading trainees met in Denver Oct. 1-5 for further work on grading carcasses and cuts of all species and on acceptance procedures.

The 14 trainees of the June class (the second training class in 1973) met in Washington, D.C., Sept. 11-14 and in Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 17-21.

First and second-line managers in the Meat Grading Branch attended a national meeting in Salt Lake City, Sept. 24-28. Assistant main station supervisors and supervisory personnel from the branch's 12 main field offices participated. The conference was planned to strengthen the supervisors' technical expertise, to prepare them for increased responsibility, and to introduce new program areas -- in sum, to increase the managers' overall effectiveness in conducting the national meat grading program.

Assistant main station supervisors attending were: David Atkins (Denver, Colo.); Arnold Broberg (So. St. Paul, Minn.); Anthony Galdikas (San Francisco, Calif.); Tom Garafola (Chicago,

Livestock - (cont'd.)

Ill.); Garrett Hafstad (Cleveland, Ohio); Rufus Huggins, Jr. (Omaha, Neb.); Tom Keene (Sioux City, Iowa); J. Dean Lowell (Bell, Calif.); Arnold Menchaca (Kansas City, Mo.); Carl Richardson (Atlanta, Ga.); and Kenneth Stevens (Amarillo, Tex.).

Also present were the following National Supervisors: Lewis Foster (Bell, Calif.); Justus Manes and Edward Murray (both of National Stockyards, Ill.); and Ward Stringfellow (Washington, D.C.).

Attending from Washington, D.C., were: Dave Hallett (branch chief); Earl Johnson (assistant chief); and Lamar Yawn.

Poultry

About 80 Federal-State supervisors recently attended meetings held by the Poultry Division to discuss administrative matters, poultry and shell egg grading, egg products inspection, and shell egg surveillance. Supervisors from the San Francisco and Chicago regions met in Kansas City, Kan., Sept. 25 - 28, and Philadelphia and Des Moines-area supervisors met in Memphis, Tenn., Oct. 16-19.

This Division is conducting off-the-job refresher courses on egg products inspection for federal and state egg inspectors throughout the country. The courses include a general review of instructions, regulations, and everyday problems.

Since August, about 200 inspectors have attended seven of these schools--two in the Chicago region, three in the Philadelphia region, and two in the Des Moines area. Conducting the schools were: George R. Anderson, national supervisor, Egg Products, Grading Branch; Ed Fuerst, supervisory egg products inspector, Grading Branch (Des Moines); Ed Horning, supervisory egg products inspector, Grading Branch (Philadelphia); Merlin L. Nichols, Jr., assistant chief, Standardization Branch; and Larry Robinson, supervisory egg products inspector, Grading Branch (Des Moines).

The courses will be completed by December when two schools will be held in the Western Region. They will be conducted by Larry Robinson, and Rod Voorhees, assistant regional director, Grading Branch (San Francisco).

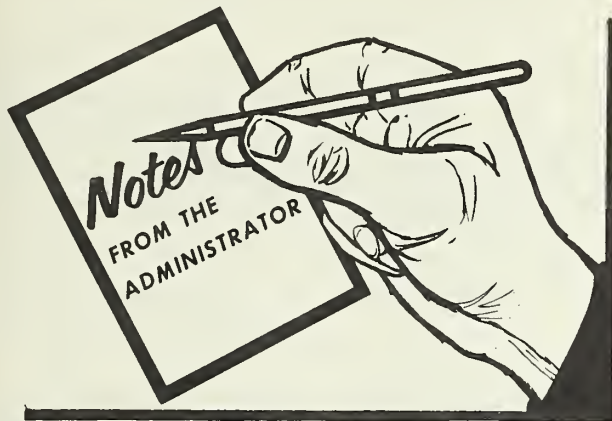
Information

Chiefs of the Information Division's five regional offices were in Washington Oct. 9-12 for meetings on all aspects of AMS's information program. Visiting were: Harold Bryson, Dallas; Ralph Cless, San Francisco; Herb Jackson, Chicago; Bryan Killikelly, New York; and Stan Prochaska, Atlanta.

Eleanor Ferris, chief of the Marketing Services Branch, received a Certificate of Merit Oct. 12

For continuing excellence in planning, directing, and coordinating information programs relating to the standardization, grading, classing, inspection, acceptance, and market news services of the Agricultural Marketing Service.

AMS report: AN ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER FOR AMS EMPLOYEES



"Were any of us...all alone on earth, we'd live in a cave, pick wild nuts and berries...like our ancestors of a dim and distant past."

As this is written, Thanksgiving is upon us. Christmas will soon arrive. It's a good time of year. The harvests are bountiful, and mostly in. The fall colors and the soft snow of early winter proclaim the beauty and goodness of our earth.

This time of beauty and of bounty is also a time of appreciation--a time to be thankful; thankful for where we are, and what we are, and what we have and do, but mostly for each other.

Were any of us, or even one family of us, all alone on earth, we'd live in a cave, pick wild nuts and berries, and be cold in winter, warm in summer, like our ancestors of a dim and distant past. Only because man has created societies, and learned to organize into productive groups, does each of us now have access to a variety of food and of things assembled from the world's far corners, to housing, transport, education, medical and dental care, and to all the rest of the accoutrements of modern life. Without our fellowmen none of this could be.

We in AMS constitute an organization. We are of many parts, and ourselves are a part of USDA, a part of our government. No one of us alone -- or even a large number of us -- can make AMS function; it takes all of us. Each one is necessary, and important to each and all the rest of us.

So, at this yearly season of bounty and beauty let us remember and appreciate each other. And to each and to all who are a part of and make AMS function, I say thank you, happy holidays - Merry Christmas, best wishes for the year to come.

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "E. L. Peterson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping "P" and "L".

E. L. Peterson

What's The Equal Employment Opportunity Advisory Committee All About?

Contributed to AMS Report by
Vivian Boseman and Martin Dunn

What do you know about the AMS Equal Employment Opportunity Advisory Committee? Do you know that next month this group will mark its second anniversary -- that for two years the members of the committee have been working to improve the EEO environment in AMS?

The committee was established to advise Administrator Ervin L. Peterson, who is the Equal Employment Opportunity officer, and his Deputy, Richard P. Bartlett, on any and all matters related to the EEO Program. You might say that the committee serves as their "eyes and ears" concerning equal employment opportunity in AMS.

Not a complaint system

Many employees mistakenly think of the EEO Advisory Committee as being part of the "complaint system." This is not so, as complaints and grievances are referred to the EEO Counselors who are not connected with the EEO Advisory Committee.

What, then, does the EEO Advisory Committee do? Its role is essentially behind-the-scenes. It helps lay the groundwork in AMS for a workable equal employment opportunity program, and sees that it is functioning. The program aims at providing equal employment opportunities throughout the agency for minority groups and women. This covers recruitment, promotions, awards, job training and personnel operations. Over the past two years many

of the committee's recommendations (including agency use of EEO films, and studies and questionnaires on EEO) have been adopted by the agency.

Certificates of Appreciation

The committee, which meets monthly, is made up of representatives from each AMS division. At the September meeting, Mr. Bartlett presented Certificates of Appreciation to Edith Christensen, Grain; Eleanor Perry, formerly of the Cotton Division, now of Personnel; and Herman Murray, Financial Management, all of the 1972 committee. Certificates were also given to Robert Leverette, Livestock, and Clay J. Ritter, Fruit and Vegetable, who have just completed service on the committee.

"The Committee is always interested in hearing from you just contact any officer or your division representative."

Recently the committee surveyed (AMS Notice 129) employee attitudes concerning EEO programs. Thanks for responding to it. You will be seeing the results soon in AMS Report.

The committee is always interested in hearing from you to get any specific suggestions or comments you might have on the EEO Program. Just contact any committee officer or your division representative.

Porter Named FSMIP Director

Thomas H. Porter has been appointed director of the Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program, Administrator Ervin L. Peterson announced Nov. 7.

After announcing the appointment, Mr. Peterson said, "Mr. Porter's performance during his service in the program is such as to fully justify his appointment as director."

FSMIP encourages states to engage in innovative marketing service projects. If the projects are successful, they are supported by state funds on a permanent basis. Forty-two states now fund such projects.

Mr. Porter succeeds George Goldsborough who is now deputy director of the Fruit and Vegetable Division. Mr. Porter has been a staff member of the program for eight years and acting director since February 1973.

He joined AMS in 1956 as a livestock market news reporter and worked

(continued on page 5)

Thomas H. Porter



APPOINTMENTS

Advises Peterson on Codex Activities

Kimbrell Fills New Post: Asst. to Administrator

Eddie Kimbrell, formerly of the Livestock Division, was named assistant to the administrator Nov. 11. In the new post, Mr. Kimbrell is Administrator Ervin L. Peterson's chief adviser on activities of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. Mr. Peterson is coordinator of the United States' participation in the Codex Commission.

The Codex Alimentarius Commission was established in 1963 to develop international standards for food to protect the consumer's health and to facilitate world trade. About 100 countries are members.

Mr. Kimbrell said his new appointment "involves coordinating the activities of 20 government representatives to individual committees, including commodity committees and general committees, such as 'Food Additives,' and 'Pesticide Residue'."

In what time is left over, Mr. Kimbrell will work with Mr. Peterson on such other duties as environmental projects as they relate to the marketing of food products and Federal-State cooperative agreements.

Mr. Kimbrell, who has been with USDA for 14 years, was formerly an agricultural marketing specialist and assistant to the chief in the Livestock Division's Standardization Branch. He has worked on Codex activities since 1970.

Ken Hammill: Pioneer in International Market News

One of the people least surprised by the burgeoning internationalization of U.S. agribusiness is Kenneth Hammill, Federal-State grain market news reporter in San Francisco. A look at the index of Ken's weekly rice market news report shows that virtually from the beginning of his tenure in the San Francisco office, he realized the international implications of the rice trade--and compiled his report accordingly.

When he came to San Francisco from the Denver grain market news office in 1966, Ken found the weekly rice report to be one of his new responsibilities. Knowing that import-export business is a focal point of the rice trade, Ken went to work at once tapping international information sources for insight into what was happening in the rice world.

One basic source is the reports of the Foreign Agricultural Service's agricultural attaches around the world. Ken evaluates any mention of rice in these reports, including in his report whatever he considers significant.

Ken points out that approximately six percent of the world's rice crop is exported, and there are only seven principal exporting countries. Yet, so pervasive is rice in the world trade that Ken has used attache reports from more than 70 countries over the past seven years.

So familiar has Ken become with international rice trading and production that it's a rare turn of events that surprises him. For example, the market was glutted about four years ago and rice exporting countries began cutting back on production. At that point, Ken predicted a world-wide shortage; that's just what the situation is now.

Bangkok is circled in red, figuratively at least, on Ken's map of the world. Thailand has the world's only price trading sessions. The Asian country alternates with the U.S. as the world's leading rice exporter, and it is in Thailand that price quotations are established as a basis for most of the world's rice trade.

World Monetary Situation

These quotations have been interrupted by the vagaries of the world monetary situation, but Ken maintains contact with the head of the Bank of Thailand, so pertinent information from Bangkok is still available to rice market news report readers.

Ken does not neglect to give full credit to his fellow U.S. market news reporters in the southern rice states, Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas. The weekly report includes a state-by-state summary of the current situation, bylined by the market newsman who compiled it. Ken compiles the California summary himself.

In some ways, the weekly rice report bucks recent trends in market news. The report is longer than it used to be. With the international

(continued on page 5)

For Your Information

AMS and the Food and Drug Administration of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, have agreed to a greater exchange of information on inspection and grading of food products to make sure that food packed for consumers is processed under sanitary conditions.

Although AMS did not previously grade food in plants that failed to meet sanitation requirements, there was no provision for reporting to FDA when inspection service was refused, suspended or withdrawn. AMS will now report to FDA when services are denied because of deficiencies in sanitation or in other good manufacturing practices.

In turn, FDA will notify AMS when they find objectionable conditions during periodic checks in plants where AMS is inspecting products or in other food plants, when FDA believes such information would be of value to AMS in its inspection and grading activities. FDA will also keep AMS apprised of other information needed to assure that AMS does not certify food as acceptable which FDA would consider in violation of law.

Reporter Has World For Source - (cont'd.) Porter - (cont'd.)

import-export tables and narrative reports on markers, government programs, a situation report, and the state summaries, the report runs six pages.

Ken explains, "When you have a national report, you should get everything in it you possibly can. My job is to analyze all the information I can get hold of, print what's important, and get it out fast."

in Nashville, Tenn., Des Moines, Iowa, and Washington, D.C. In September 1962 he became assistant chief of the Livestock Market News Branch, a position he held until he joined the Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program (then called the Matching Fund Program) in 1965.

Division News

Dairy

The New England dairy industry has set up a \$5,000 scholarship at the University of Vermont in honor of Richard D. Aplin, former administrator of the Boston Regional and Connecticut milk marketing orders. Mr. Aplin retired Sept. 30 after more than 45 years of federal service.

R.L. Van Buren, chief of the Bureau of Milk and Dairy Food Controls, California Department of Food and Agriculture, and Dr. Jerry Hutton, vice president of New Product Development, Foremost Foods, Inc., were guest

speakers at the Inspection and Grading Branch's semi-annual Regional Supervisors' Conference in San Francisco, Calif., Oct. 1-4. Ed Garbe, branch chief, chaired the sessions attended by the following Regional Supervisors and their staffs: LeRoy Iverson (Syracuse, N.Y.); Ken Olson and Dr. James Dizikes (both of Chicago, Ill.); Harold Linden (Minneapolis, Minn.); and Roy Hedtke (San Francisco, Calif.)

Seventy people, including representatives from seven state departments of agriculture, got together for the Inspection and Grading Branch's annual workshop in Minneapolis, Minn.,

Dairy - (cont'd.)

Oct. 30-Nov. 1. The workshop is a forum for dairy plant inspectors and resident personnel to discuss a wide scope of Branch functions. The Branch used the facilities of a dairy manufacturing plant in Minnesota for training the men in equipment sanitation and process controls.

Fruit and Vegetable

Minard F. (Bing) Miller received the 1973 Distinguished Service Award, highest honor of the Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association at its 30th annual convention in October. Mr. Miller is in charge of the Marketing Field Office for the southeastern states. The annual award, which dates back to 1947, is

"for service to Florida Agriculture over a period of years, not for a single accomplishment."

Some 700 consumers recently viewed a grading demonstration and display prepared by Paul Spears, sub-area supervisor at the Stockton, Calif., Processed Products Standardization and Inspection Branch. The display was part of a Modesto, Calif., Junior College Agricultural Department open house. Requests keep coming in for these demonstrations due to the current interest in food inspection and quality.

The first in a series of 23 articles on the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act came out in the Oct. 20 edition of The Packer, a leading trade publication primarily of interest to the f&v industry. The articles are featured under the heading "Plain Talk About PACA."

Floyd Hedlund, director, and Michael Price, head of the Complaint Section, Regulatory Branch, co-authored the articles, which explain the fundamentals of the PAC Act to the f&v industry.

Charles Hackensmith, Madison, Wis., fruit and vegetable market news reporter, recently participated in a taped radio broadcast over the state's Educational Radio Network. Mr. Hackensmith discussed this year's potato crop and Federal-State market news reports. The broadcast will be disseminated throughout Wisconsin.

Tom Hill, officer-in-charge of the Hunts Point Market in New York City, has shown Japanese and Norwegian guests through the Hunts Point market news facilities this fall. The 10-member Japanese horticultural work-study team visited in September and three officials of the Royal Norwegian Consulate in October.

Nancy Steorts, the Secretary's consumer adviser, visited the Winter Haven, Fla., processed products inspection lab Nov. 1. Mrs. Steorts was shown the consumer flavor panel booth, the electric colorimeters used to test color in orange juice, and the bacteriological testing facilities.

Grain

Robert D. Strand spoke on "Triticale Standards in the Marketplace," and W. Haward Hunt joined a roundtable forum on wheat characterization, titled "Moisture Measurement," at the annual meeting of the American Association of Cereal Chemists in St. Louis Nov. 3-8.

Mr. Strand is a marketing specialist and Mr. Hunt a grain technologist, both of the Standardization Branch in Hyattsville.

Edith Christensen, head of the Testing Section, Commodity Inspection Branch in Beltsville, also attended the meeting. Miss Christensen is secretary of the association and a member of its board of directors.

Triticale, still in the developmental states, is a hybrid between wheat and rye. Scientists see it as a potentially important crop.

Ivan S. Panjkin, a marketing expert in imports and exports from the USSR, toured the Beltsville lab facilities in mid-October. Miss Christensen explained to Mr. Panjkin ARS's use of lab instruments in testing cereal products.

Livestock

On Nov. 1, this Division launched a nationwide study to determine the quality and yield grade consist of fed beef now being produced and marketed. (Yield grade measures the percentage of closely trimmed retail cuts from a carcass.) The Division will use the study as a base to compare future changes in fed beef production.

About 68 meatpacking plants across the U.S. are participating in the year-long study. Meat grading personnel will evaluate and record quality and yield grade characteristics of a

sample of each plant's carcasses.

Similar studies on pork carcasses show changes toward the production of leaner slaughter hogs.

Herb Abraham, a Standardization Branch specialist, graded feeder cattle in Oklahoma City, Okla., and Albany, Ga., last month as part of a project to improve communications in feeder cattle trading. This project is being sponsored by the *Progressive Farmer* and by extension workers from several southern states.

Trading began Nov. 1 on a new live slaughter steer futures contract at the Pacific Commodities Exchange, Inc., San Francisco. The contract calls for 50,000 pounds of 50 percent or more USDA Choice and Prime steers. Livestock Division market reporters will examine the livestock offered for delivery -- February 1974 is the first delivery month -- and certify that the steers meet contract specifications. Deliveries can be made at four feedlots in California and one in Arizona.

CARCASS DATA SERVICE: PROGRESS REPORT

More than 70,000 official USDA eartags have been distributed to 29 cooperating cattlemen's and agricultural groups since the nationwide test of the Beef Carcass Data Service (BCDS) began a year ago. Cooperators distribute the bright orange, serially numbered eartags directly to producers and feeders. Carcass data has been collected on about 6600 BCDS-eartagged slaughter cattle to date. (Most of the tag-bearing animals have not yet been slaughtered.)

Livestock - (cont'd.)

Under the program, the meat inspector transfers the tag from the slaughtered animal to the carcass. Then a USDA meat grader evaluates the quality and yield grade characteristics, records the information on a BCDS form, and the carcass data report is returned to the tag purchaser. Producers use the data to evaluate their breeding programs, and feeders to check the results of their feeding methods.

Poultry

Dennis Gardner, a new grader, saved the life of a plant employee in North Vernon, Ind., last month. The accident happened two days before Mr. Gardner was officially employed, when he and his supervisor were in the Jen Acres plant for training. According to Charles Stewart, assistant federal-state supervisor in Indiana, a plant employee who had slipped and hit his head on the floor, began to choke, went into a state of shock and stopped breathing. Mr. Gardner used mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and pounded the man's chest to restore breathing. Mr. Stewart said witnesses believe the man would have died had Mr. Gardner not known what to do.

This Division manned an exhibit, discussed Poultry Division programs, and demonstrated a market news teletype at the annual NEPPCO (Northeastern Poultry Producers Council Exposi-

tion) meeting in Hershey, Pa., Oct. 30-Nov. 1. Attending were H. C. Kennett, director; Ashley Gulich, standardization branch chief; Raymond Wruk, assistant market news branch chief; and Richard Shockley, Pennsylvania Federal-State grading supervisor. The meeting was well attended by industry people interested in production, processing, and marketing of poultry and eggs in the northeast region.

Three egg products refresher courses are being held in the western region the last week of November and the first week in December. The schools are conducted by Robert Anderson, national supervisor, egg products (Washington, D.C.); Rodney Voorhees, assistant regional director (San Francisco); and Norma Crevey, supervisory egg products inspector (San Francisco). Instructors for the Chicago and Memphis schools were Howard Magwire, supervisory egg products inspector (Chicago); Bill Borst, supervisory egg products inspector (Chicago); and Bill Robbins, supervisory egg products inspector (Nashville).

Those attending a National Supervisors' meeting in Washington, D.C., Nov. 13-16 discussed all aspects of the grading programs for shell eggs and poultry and the inspection program for egg products.

At the meeting were the four Regional Directors -- James York (Philadelphia), Dale Shearer (Chicago), Frank Santo (Des Moines), and Robert Dorsett (San Francisco)--and their respective assistants -- Henry Binnix, Jack Brownlow, William Sutherlin, and Rodney Voorhees. Federal-State Supervisors William Crosby (Sacramento) and John Barker (Atlanta) and Administrative Assistants from the four regions, Michael Richardson, Archie Carver, Marjorie German, and Sue Takahashi, also attended.